

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of us all, I extend my sincere appreciation to Fire Chief Rob Dahlman for his fine service to our community and our country.

IN HONOR OF DICK BARELLI

HON. SAM FARR

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 4, 2005

Mr. FARR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Dean Richard (Dick) Barelli, a dedicated public servant who passed away on October 1st, 2004. He was a valuable member of the Monterey Bay community and will be sorely missed by all who had the pleasure of knowing him.

Dick Barelli was born in Hammond, Indiana on February 25, 1937 to Dean and Anne Barelli. After graduating from Notre Dame University, Dick served as a 1st Lieutenant in the United States Army at Monterey County's own Fort Ord. Dick then earned his law degree from the University of California, Hastings College of Law, and in 1970 moved to Monterey to become one of the first Monterey County Assistant Public Defenders. He went into private practice, and was a founding member of the Monterey College of Law in 1972. Dick was appointed Superior Court Judge of Monterey County in 1977, where he served for five years. Although Dick retired in 1982 he has served as Deputy County Counsel for the past nine years, and was actively involved in the Monterey County Bar Association, where he served as President.

Mr. Speaker, I applaud Dean Barelli's many accomplishments, and I commend him for his lifelong dedication to his community and friends. I knew Dean Barelli during my time as a Monterey County supervisor, and was deeply saddened to hear of his passing. I join the Monterey Bay community, his friends and his family in honoring this truly admirable man for all of his lifelong achievements.

INTRODUCTION OF NATIONAL SECURITY LANGUAGE ACT

HON. RUSH D. HOLT

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 4, 2005

Mr. HOLT. Mr. Speaker, we can no longer keep our nation safe if we do not commit ourselves to learning the languages and cultures of critical areas around the world. The security of our troops overseas and the American people here at home demand that we act quickly to eliminate the severe shortage of critical need language professionals in this country. While the last Congress has taken some steps, we have not done enough.

That's why I rise today to introduce legislation, the National Security Language Act, which would significantly expand our investment in foreign language education on the primary, secondary, and post-secondary level.

Al Qaeda operates in over 75 countries, where hundreds of languages and dialects are spoken. However, 99 percent of American high school, college and university programs concentrate on a dozen (mostly European)

languages. In fact, more college students currently study Ancient Greek (20,858) than Arabic (10,596), Korean (5,211), Persian (1,117), and Pashto (14) put together. We need to do more to make sure that America has the language professionals necessary to defend our national security. This cannot be done overnight. We are already years overdue.

The 911 Congressional Joint Inquiry reports our intelligence community is at 30 percent readiness in languages critical to national security. Despite this alarming statistic, we do not appear to be taking the necessary aggressive action to address this problem. Various agencies are making efforts to hire more linguists. When I asked a panel of intelligence experts at a recent Intelligence hearing what the federal government is doing to increase the pool of critical need language professionals from which they hire these linguists, they answered with silence. Two years after the events of September 11, we are still failing to address one of the most fundamental security problems facing this nation.

Changing our recruiting methods alone will not solve the problem. To meet new security needs, we need to create a new domestic pool of foreign language experts and we can only do that by investing in the classroom.

The National Security Language Act would expand federal investment in education in foreign languages of critical need, such as Arabic, Persian, Korean, Pashto, and Chinese. Specifically, my bill would provide loan forgiveness of up to \$10,000 for university students who major in a critical need foreign language and then take a job either in the federal workforce or as a language teacher. It would provide new grants to American universities to establish intensive in-country language study programs and to develop programs that encourage students to pursue advanced science and technology studies in a foreign language.

My bill would also establish grants for foreign language partnerships between local school districts and foreign language departments at institutions of higher education. And it would authorize a national study to identify heritage communities here in the United States with native speakers of critical foreign languages and make them targets of a federal marketing campaign encouraging students to pursue degrees in those languages.

Just as the National Defense Education Act of 1958 created a generation of scientists, engineers, and Russian linguists to confront the enemy of that time, the National Security Language Act will give us a generation of Americans able to confront the new threats we face today.

RECOGNIZING MR. JOE GOVERNALE

HON. HILDA L. SOLIS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 4, 2005

Ms. SOLIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a great gentleman who has devoted a majority of his life to civil service—Joe Governale, who is retiring as Postmaster of Covina.

Born in Chicago, Mr. Governale received a Masters Degree in Psychology from Cal State Fullerton. Married to wife Judy, and proud fa-

ther of two children, Mr. Governale was first employed in the Postal Service in 1964.

While on leave from the Postal Service, Mr. Governale was in the U.S. Navy as a Corpsman from 1966 to 1970. Mr. Governale served on the cruiser USS Canabera and then with the Marines during the Vietnam War.

After returning from Vietnam to his clerk job at the Covina Post Office, Mr. Governale found a new post office had been built while he was gone and within it, he found a new home. Within two years, Mr. Governale moved into management and was appointed to the position of Director of Human Resources in 1982. Mr. Governale was selected as the Postmaster of Baldwin Park in 1986, and is the longest serving Postmaster in the history of Covina. Mr. Governale also received his teaching credentials and has taught postal operations for many years to new supervisors.

Mr. Governale is a fan of the Chicago Bears and the White Sox, and his hobbies include video poker and reading. Mr. Governale plans to retire in Laughlin, Nevada, so he can enjoy time with his family.

Mr. Governale is a wonderful example of a person who dedicated his life to civil service. I am proud to recognize Mr. Joe Governale and his many years of work as a civil servant as he retires as Postmaster of Covina.

TRIBUTE TO THE LATE MRS. MABEL YAP

HON. KENDRICK B. MEEK

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 4, 2005

Mr. MEEK of Florida. Mr. Speaker, it is with deep sorrow that I rise to pay this tribute to the late Mrs. Mabel Yap. She was one of Miami-Dade County's matriarchs who contributed immense good to our community.

Mrs. Yap's passing on December 27, 2004 leaves a deep void, especially for those of us who have known her quiet and dignified spirit in urging her children and grandchildren to advance the common good of our beloved community in an unselfish manner. The funeral Mass to celebrate her life is being held today, Tuesday, January 4, 2005, beginning at 2:00 p.m. at St. Louis Catholic Church, and will be followed by her interment at Woodlawn Cemetery in South Miami.

She was the loving and devoted wife of Mr. Patrick Yap and the mother of eight children, 21 grandchildren and 18 great-grandchildren. Mrs. Yap symbolized the dutiful mother whose home offered sanctuary and solace to all those who sought her help. Her nurturing spirit and perseverance amidst overwhelming odds transformed her into a matron of love and caring for all those who came to her seeking her advice on a myriad of things. Buttressed by her unflinching faith and her willingness to pay the price, she went about doing good, especially on behalf of the less fortunate.

Though a highly private individual, the late Mabel Yap consecrated her life to raising a family of achievers, and has been a resilient voice in articulating the need for responding to the plight of our community's immigrants. In so doing she symbolized all that is good and noble about the American spirit of idealism and optimism, and she worked long and hard in hopes that our nation truly become a land of opportunity for all.